

THURSDAY, January 12, 1854.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Rev. Mr. Craig—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Potter, chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a bill to authorise the clerk of the district court of Washington county to transcribe certain records therein named, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Potter, of said committee, to whom was referred a bill to change the time of holding the Fall Term of the district court of Calhoun county, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Taylor, chairman of the committee on Public Debt, made the following report :

The committee on Public Debt have had under consideration the petition of E. S. C. Robenson, agent for the heirs of H. R. W. Hill. The committee find the facts in this case to be, that in the year 1835 H. R. W. Hill furnished Texas with five thousand dollars, in par funds, with the understanding that should Texas be successful in maintaining her independence, he was to be remunerated for the \$5000 in lands, and if she was unsuccessful, it was a donation to the cause of freedom. This claim was audited under the act of 1848, to ascertain the liabilities of Texas, at its face value without interest, there being no law allowing interest on the claim. The petitioner now asks that interest may be allowed and paid on said claim. It has not been the policy of this government to pay interest on any claim which the law creating the claim did not provide for the payment of interest thereon. This may be a hard case, and will doubtless be so construed; but the committee think that it would be inexpedient at this time to make any inroads upon the course of policy adopted for the liquidation of our public debt, and therefore instruct me to report adversely to the petition.

Mr. Sublett, chairman on the part of the Senate of the committee on Enrolled Bills, made the following report :

COMMITTEE-ROOM, Jan. 11, 1854.

The committee on Enrolled Bills have examined an act supplementary to an act to establish the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroad company, and find the same correctly enrolled, and it was this day submitted to the Governor for his approval.

Mr. Hill presented the petition of Samuel W. Shields, praying

for the passage of a law relieving petitioner from the disabilities of minority; referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Guinn, from the committee on Engrossed Bills, reported as correctly engrossed, a bill to incorporate the Ursuline Convent and Female Academy of San Antonio de Bexar.

Mr. Hart, chairman of the committee on Private Land Claims, made the following report:

The committee on Private Land Claims have considered a bill for the relief of Alexander Lacey, and find from the evidence that he is justly entitled to the relief he asks. The law of the last session of the Legislature, for the relief of those who suffered by the burning of the office of the county clerk of Grimes county, before the registry of certificates for that quarter, is not sufficiently full to give the relief asked. The committee would therefore report a substitute for the bill and recommend its passage.

Mr. Gage, chairman of the committee on State Affairs, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of the widow and child of Almanson Dickinson, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Gage, of said committee, to whom was referred a bill to allow John Douglass Brown, a minor, to transact business as though he were of full age, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. McAnelly presented the petition of John C. McDonald, asking for a pension; referred to the committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Durst presented the petition of John Hagerty for relief; referred to the committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Newman presented the petition of sundry citizens of the town of Gilmer, in the county of Upshur, asking for the incorporation of the Gilmer Male Academy; referred to the same committee.

Mr. Bryan presented the petition of John L. Joline, A. Lynch, Calvin Lynch, E. B. Lynch, W. C. C. Lynch and Thomas P. Crosby, asking for pay and bounty land for services rendered in the army of Texas in 1836; referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Sublett introduced a bill to prescribe the time within which Railroad companies shall construct their roads in order to entitle them to donations of land from the State; read first time, and on motion of Mr. Sublett, rule suspended, read second time and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Sublett moved a further suspension of the rule; lost.

Mr. Potter, chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, to

whom was referred a bill to authorise the county court of Henderson county to levy an additional tax for the purpose of building a court-house, recommended its passage with the following amendments :

In section 1st, after the word "provided," strike out the remainder of the section and insert : "That the tax hereby authorised to be assessed, or levied, shall not exceed the amount of the State tax levied in any one year."

Mr. Gage, chairman of the committee on State Affairs, to whom was referred a bill to incorporate Palestine Encampment, No. 3, reported the same back and recommended its passage.

Mr. Gage, of said committee, made the following report :

The committee on State Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of the citizens of Independence, in Washington county, asking the passage of a law to enable the mayor and aldermen to prohibit the sale or public use of intoxicating drinks within three miles of Independence, have had the same under consideration, and the committee are of opinion that it would be imprudent to place such power in the hands of the mayor and aldermen, as the prohibition would extend beyond the corporate limits of the town. The committee are of opinion that if this prohibition is enforced, that it should be done by a vote of the people within such bounds. They have, therefore, instructed me to report the accompanying bill and recommend its passage :

A bill to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors within three miles of the town of Independence, in Washington county, except for medicinal, mechanical, or sacramental purposes; read first time.

Mr. Taylor introduced a bill making an appropriation to pay for the publishing of the proclamations of the Governor for the years 1852 and 1853; read first time, and on motion of Mr. Taylor, rule suspended, read second time and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Hart, the rule was further suspended, bill read third time and passed.

Mr. Martin introduced a bill to incorporate the town of Athens in Henderson county; read first time, and on motion of Mr. Hart, rule suspended, read second time and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A message was received from the House, informing the Senate that the House had passed the following bills originating in that body :

A bill to change the name of Elizabeth Jane Sinclair to Eliz-

abeth Jane Hampton, and to authorise John C. Hampton to adopt her as his child;

Joint resolution in regard to service on the tri-weekly mail route from Red River to Huntsville;

A bill to amend the 9th section of an act to regulate proceedings in the district courts, passed on the 13th day of May, 1846;

A bill for the relief of the colonists of Fishers & Miller's colony; and

A bill relating to the Indians of Texas.

On motion of Mr. Gage, the Senate adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, January 13, 1854.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Millican presented the petition of sundry citizens of Robertson county, praying for relief; referred to the committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

Mr. Scarborough presented the petition of the city council of the city of Brownsville, asking for a set of weights and measures; referred to the committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Armstrong presented the petition of Henry Anderson, asking for one league of land; referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Hart, chairman of the committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John W. Clark, reported the following bill and recommended its passage:

A bill for the relief of John W. Clark; read first time.

Mr. Hart, of said committee, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of William Dunlap, reported the same back and recommended its passage with the following amendment:

Strike out the word "six hundred and forty," and insert "three hundred and twenty."

Mr. Hart, of said committee, made the following report:

The committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John Walker, a citizen of Robertson county, who represents to the entire satisfaction of the committee that he was a member in Captain Gillespie's company in 1836, and was at the upper encampment at the time the battle of San Jacinto was fought. There can be no doubt but the memorialist was the boy who did participate in 1836 in the struggle between